NON-LETHAL WEAPONS

DESCRIPTION

The Marine Corps is currently fielding Non-Lethal Capability Sets (NLCS) that consist of a variety of force protection equipment designed to protect Marines and incapacitate personnel and material by means meant to reduce collateral or permanent damage, such as face shields, handcuffs, pepper spray and road spikes. Larger systems that can employ nonlethal means, such as the Tactical Unmanned Ground Vehicle (TUGV; see p. 171), an anti-traction material sprayer named the Mobility Denial System, and a nonlethal grenade named Clear-A-Space, are also under development.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The Non-Lethal Weapons program provides Marines with training and equip-

ment to operate in situations where lethal force is not an option. The NLCS items provide Marine units with a tactical advantage by increasing force protection and force application options, improving stand off separation and impairing an adversary's mobility.

PROGRAM STATUS

As noted, the Marine Corps has fielded NLCSs, and continues to procure more as operational requirements and resources dictate. These sets require periodic replenishment and pre-planned improvements. Of the larger nonlethal systems, the TUGV is in the pre-Milestone A phase, the Mobility Denial System is in the pre-Milestone C phase, and Clear-A-Space is pre-Milestone B.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE

Funding for this program continues to upgrade, replenish and field nonlethal capabilities to deploying units during FY 2004-2005.

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

NLCS integrator: Aardvark Tactical, Azusa, CA